

**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
OPERATIONS RESEARCH AND FACILITIES
FY 2007 OVERVIEW**

SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA

(\$ in thousands)

Operations Research and Facilities	FY 2005 ACTUALS	FY 2006 CURRENTLY AVAILABLE	FY 2007 BASE PROGRAM	FY 2007 ESTIMATE	INCREASE / DECREASE
Protected Species Research and Management	175,530	145,039	122,428	144,924	22,496
Fisheries Research and Management	297,873	282,408	265,746	291,662	25,916
Enforcement and Observers / Training	70,347	72,675	73,224	80,697	7,473
Habitat Conservation & Restoration	53,248	46,629	28,698	39,896	11,198
Other Activities Supporting Fisheries	79,517	70,177	48,104	55,361	7,257
Alaska Composite Research and Development	0	50,298	29,724	36,448	6,724
TOTAL	676,515	667,226	567,924	648,988	81,064
FTE	2,594	2,552	2,552	2,587	35

For FY 2007, NOAA requests an increase of \$81,064,000 and 35 FTE for a total of \$648,988,000 for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Operations, Research and Facilities account.

NOAA is responsible, in partnership with other Federal agencies and State and local governments, for managing the Nation's coastal zone and protected areas; planning for, mitigating, and responding to hazardous events; restoring degraded habitats; protecting ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources; ensuring wise and appropriate use of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources; and providing advice, technical tools, information, and training to coastal residents, communities, and other decision makers and users of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes areas. NOAA is also responsible for protecting, restoring, and managing species listed under the Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act, as well as their habitats, and for managing and rebuilding fish stocks to population levels that will support economically viable and sustainable harvest opportunities.

To accomplish these longer-term objectives, NOAA will invest in improving our understanding of ecosystems; identifying regional ecosystems; developing ecosystem health indicators; and applying new methods of governance to establish the necessary knowledge, tools, and capabilities to fully implement an ecosystem approach to management of coastal, ocean, and Great Lakes resources. The following are strategies for implementing the ecosystem goal's objectives:

- Engage and collaborate with our partners to achieve regional objectives by delineating regional ecosystems, forming regional ecosystem councils, and implementing cooperative strategies to improve regional ecosystem health.
- Manage uses of ecosystems by applying scientifically sound observations, assessments, and research findings to ensure the sustainable use of resources and to balance competing uses of coastal and marine ecosystems.
- Improve resource management by advancing our understanding of ecosystems through better simulation and predictive models. Build and advance the capabilities of an ecological component of the NOAA global environmental observing system to monitor, assess, and predict national and regional ecosystem health, as well as to gather information consistent with established social and economic indicators.
- Develop coordinated regional and national outreach and education efforts to improve public understanding and involvement in stewardship of coastal and marine ecosystems.
- Engage in technological and scientific exchange with our domestic and international partners to protect, restore, and manage marine resources within and beyond the nation's borders.

NMFS Mission Overview:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for the management and conservation of living marine resources within the U. S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). NMFS also provides critical support, scientific, and policy leadership in the international arena and plays a key role in the management of living marine resources in coastal areas under State jurisdiction. NMFS implements international agreements on conservation and management measures through science-based conservation and management actions aimed at sustaining long-term use and promoting the health of coastal and marine ecosystems. The result is maximized benefits to the Nation from the use of living marine resources. Programmatic authority for fisheries management, species protection, and habitat conservation activities are derived primarily from the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA), Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), and Endangered Species Act (ESA). Other acts provide additional authority for enforcement, seafood safety, habitat restoration, and cooperative efforts with States, interstate fish commissions, and other countries. All of these activities rely on a strong scientific and research competency to support the challenging public policy decision process associated with NMFS' stewardship responsibility.

Work is conducted by NMFS field elements with oversight, review, and direction by NMFS headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. The field structure consists of six Regional Offices, each with a Science Center that conducts research and directs the work carried out by the other laboratories and satellite/special purpose facilities in that region.

Major NMFS facilities are located at the following sites:

Northeast:	Regional Office - Gloucester, MA Science Center - Woods Hole, MA Major Laboratories - Milford, CT; Narragansett, RI; J.J. Howard, Sandy Hook, NJ Satellite/Special Purpose Facilities - Smithsonian (National Systematics Lab), Washington, DC
Southeast:	Regional Office - St. Petersburg, FL Science Center - Miami, FL Major Laboratories - Beaufort, NC; Galveston, TX; Panama City, FL; Pascagoula, MS Satellite/Special Purpose Facilities - Stennis Space Center (Bay St. Louis, MS)
Southwest:	Regional Office - Long Beach, CA Science Center - La Jolla, CA Major Laboratories - Santa Cruz, CA Satellite/Special Purpose Facilities - Pacific Grove, CA
Northwest:	Regional Office - Seattle, WA at Sand Point Science Center - Seattle, WA at Montlake Satellite/Special Purpose Facilities - Manchester, WA; Mukilteo, WA; Pasco, WA; Newport, OR; Hammond, OR
Alaska:	Regional Office - Juneau, AK Science Center - Seattle, WA at Sand Point Major Laboratories - Auke Bay, AK; Kodiak, AK Satellite/Special Purpose Facilities - Little Port Walter, AK
Pacific Islands:	Regional Office – Honolulu, HI Science Center – Honolulu, HI

Research and Development Investments

The NOAA FY 2007 Budget estimates for its activities, including research and development programs, are the result of an integrated, requirements-based Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution System (PPBES) that provides the structure to link NOAA's strategic vision with programmatic detail, budget development, and the framework to maximize resources while optimizing capabilities. The PPBES process incorporates the President's Management Agenda and the Office of Science and Technology Policy's Research and Development Investment Criteria (relevance, quality, and performance) into NOAA's R&D programs, and leads to NOAA budget proposals that reflect the Administration's R&D investment priorities.

Significant Adjustments to Base:

NOAA requests a net increase of \$4,557,000 and 0 FTE to fund adjustments to base across all accounts in the National Marine Fisheries Service activities. With this increase program totals will fund the estimated FY 2007 Federal pay raise of 2.2 percent and annualize the FY 2006 pay raise of 3.1 percent. Program totals will provide inflationary increases for non-labor activities, including service contracts, utilities, field office lease payments, and rent charges from the General Services Administration. The above amount includes a transfer of \$28,000 to the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations within Program Support.

NOAA requests the following transfers between line offices for a net change to NOAA of zero.

From Office	Line	To Office	Line	Amount
NMFS	Fisheries Research and Management Base	OMAO	NOAA Corps	-\$28,000

The \$28,000 transferred to OMAO partially funds NOAA Corps Officer positions that benefit NMFS.